

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET				
SUBJECT: (Optional) Monthly Report -- Nicosia Bureau				
FROM: Chief, Operations Group		EXTENSION	NO.	STAT
			DATE December 1987	
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)
	RECEIVED	FORWARDED		
1. C/Ops	28 Jan		B	
2.				
3. C/E&PS	29 Jan		f	
4. DD/FBIS	1/29		6	
5. <del>D/FBIS</del>				
6.				
7. PO/RA	1/29		Om	
8. SA/CD	1/29		Eng	
9.				
10. C/AS	2 Feb		CD	
11.				
12. C/AG	3 Feb 1/29		gn	
13. Admin Staff			CD	
14. C/B&F			PKK	
15. <del>D/FBIS</del> Exec. Reg.			PKK	



FBIS-4801-88  
8 January 88

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

**THROUGH** : Chief, Operations Group

**SUBJECT** : Monthly Report -- Nicosia Bureau -- December 1987

## I. GENERAL

The U.S. ambassador designate to Nicosia, William Ferrin, was left unconfirmed along with five other administration nominees when the Senate Foreign Relations Committee decided to take no action on them in this session. The nominees will have to be submitted anew to the next Congress. Ferrin's testimony before the committee drew a flurry of criticism from Cypriot papers, which found him trying to be too even-handed in his views toward the Greek Cypriot side and what they refer to as "Atilla."

## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. At London Bureau's request, Nicosia covered Saudi Arabian television from satellite during the Gulf Cooperation Council meeting in Riyadh, from 26 through 29 December. The BBC had difficulties monitoring other satellite targets, which prevented them from laying on Saudi television coverage themselves, but they were able to resume coverage before the conference finished. A few days before the GCC session, the BBC also briefly lost its regular feed of the Saudi Press Agency. Nicosia attempted to backstop this service from satellite, but could not locate it, presumably because of local interference on a nearby frequency.

2. The bureau realigned Persian coverage as the two Persian monitors took leave in turns throughout the whole month. The duty monitor each week worked six days, leaving the BBC to cover Tehran early morning casts one day a week and relegating Tehran evening television to delayed coverage from recordings. The daily forwarding of Tehran television news programs for INTERNET relay, however, continued without delay. On 18 December an off-duty Persian monitor was called back in to check reports that Khomeyni was dead, which were based on observations of the television carrying his picture with "black flags." The monitor's checks turned up a recent program showing the mourning for another figure in 1979 that matched this description. Earlier, on 14 December, a series of FYI's was filed confirming that Tehran radio and television were continuing normal programs in response to a Reuter report that Khomeyni might be ill.

3. Telephone patches to the BBC of the bureau's satellite reception of Tehran radio became more frequent as Tehran schedule changes made reception of the traditional Friday prayers more difficult at London. The bureau worked out a series of technical and procedural problems until the phone patches became a reliable, routine operation. Nicosia now keeps watch on Tehran television at the approximate time for the prayers broadcast--using an Arabic monitor when no Persian is on duty--and alerts the BBC to the start of the broadcast so they can place the phone call

for the signal feed. Tehran television's weekly Revolutionary Guards Program was recorded and forwarded to London by courier for INTERNET relay for three weeks in response to a Headquarters request. The bureau was finally able to observe the reported broadcasts of Tehran television's Second Program from satellite. The cast is being checked to determine content and broadcast schedule.

4. Nicosia resumed recording Beijing radio in Persian on the days of the week when it is not on regular coverage in response to an AG request for continuing checks for comment from this cast that might match occasional comment on Iran and Gulf issues from other Beijing sources.

5. In response to a query from Amman Bureau on 15 December, Nicosia monitors rechecked Egyptian media output and confirmed an absence of commentary critical of Syria for the preceding three weeks.

6. Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation employees called a warning strike on 23 December, which put the radio and television off the air for three hours. This was followed by a 24-hour strike on 4 January, during which the radio broadcast only music and the television was again off the air.

#### B. Lateral Services

The bureau passed on to Colonge Unit a request from American Embassy Nicosia for the text of an interview in the German paper Die Welt with Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktas. The short text was received and passed on to the Embassy in less than two hours. The political officer expressed thanks for the service.

#### C. Technical

1. Many problems were uncovered in the heating system during the first real cold spell of the year. Several heating elements were found connected incorrectly, and the main thermostat was connected backwards. The humidity control was found to be causing some problems and was temporarily disconnected to allow proper heating throughout the building.

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3. The audio selection assemblies in the monitoring areas were modified to allow monitors to use headphones in place of speakers when working areas are crowded.

4. Installation of equipment in the cruising room was completed. All that remains is to connect the signal lines from the satellite dish antennas.

5. A set of new furniture was received and delivered to the house of editor Mike Mantas to replace old furniture there. Some of the better furniture was used to replace still older items in the TDY apartment. New rugs were installed in the bedrooms and entry hall of the apartment, the second bedroom was furnished in anticipation of having two TDY editors arriving together in January, and the third bedroom was furnished as a study with a desk and typewriter.

6. An engineering workbook was completed, as requested by FED, and will be forwarded to Headquarters. It describes and documents the entire physical and technical plant of the bureau.

### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. Personnel

1. Bureau Chief [ ] and his wife and daughter went on R&R to the United States on 17 December. STAT

2. Editor [ ] departed on R&R to the United States on 8 December. STAT

3. Retired teletypist [ ] from the old MedBureau at Karavas, died of cancer in Nicosia on 15 December. Bureau employees sent a donation to a charity designated by the family, and a contingent of his friends and former colleagues attended the services. STAT

### IV. VISITS

Headquarters editor [ ] departed on 5 December at the end of a three-month editorial training TDY. STAT



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Bureau Chief  
Nicosia Bureau

**ATTACHMENT:** Production Report

## Nicosia Bureau Production Report for December 1987

## I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	274930
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	107800
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	908

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	10095.00 min.	22260.00 min.	118.00 issues
III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES: (publishable words per month)			

## CHINA

Beijing in

Persian to Iran

0

## CLANDESTINE

(Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in  
Arabic

15970

(Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in  
English

220

(Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in  
Arabic

0

(Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in  
Arabic

6480

(Clandestine) Voice of the People in  
Arabic

850

## CYPRUS

Nicosia Domestic Service in  
English

360

Nicosia Domestic Service in  
Greek

6620

Nicosia Television Service in  
Greek

520

Nicosia CYPRUS MAIL in  
English

1650

Nicosia ELEVTHEROTIPIA TIS  
DHEFTERAS in

Greek

720

Nicosia ELEVTHEROTIPIA in  
Greek

1120

Nicosia I SIMERINI TIS DHEFTERAS in  
Greek

350

- 2 -

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Nicosia I SIMERINI in Greek			1700
Nicosia KHARAVYI DHEFTERAS in Greek			420
Nicosia KHARAVYI in Greek			480
Nicosia O AGON TIS DHEFTERAS in Greek			240
Nicosia O AGON in Greek			1220
Nicosia O FILELEVTHEROS TIS DHEFTERAS in Greek			0
Nicosia O FILELEVTHEROS in Greek			2540
Nicosia PRESS AND INFORMATION OFFICE in English			240
Nicosia TA NEA in Greek			340
Nicosia THE CYPRUS WEEKLY in English			380
Nicosia YENI DUZEN in Turkish			150
EGYPT			
Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic	14120		
Cairo MENA in Arabic		64210	
Cairo MENA in English		3240	
FRANCE			
Paris AFP in English		10560	
GREECE			
Athens Domestic Service in Greek	11390		
Athens ATHENS NEWS in English			1990
Athens ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek			1460
Athens I KATHIMERINI in Greek			360
Athens KIRIAKATIKI ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek			890

- 3 -

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Athens KIRIAKATIKOS RIZOSPASTIS in Greek			0
Athens RIZOSPASTIS in Greek			2630
IRAN			
Tehran International Service in Arabic	2130		
Tehran Domestic Service in Persian	16890		
Tehran Television Service in Persian	3990		
LEBANON			
Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic	22850		
Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic	32330		
Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic	160		
Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic	1220		
Beirut AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic			3150
Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic			0
Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic			2120
Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic			6000
Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English			5390
LIBYA			
Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic	0		
Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic	490		
SAUDI ARABIA			
Riyadh Television Service in Arabic	1350		
TURKEY			
Ankara YANKI in Turkish			0

- 4 -

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Istanbul BULVAR in Turkish			430
Istanbul CUMHURİYET in Turkish			3950
Istanbul DUNYA in Turkish			0
Istanbul GUNAYDIN in Turkish			1170
Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish			3350
Istanbul MILLİYET in Turkish			4460
Istanbul TERCUMAN in Turkish			5450
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS			
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian	1700		
Moscow in Greek to Cyprus	860		
Moscow in Greek to Greece	0		
Moscow in Persian to Iran	0		
Baku Domestic Service in Azeri	1670		
Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek	400		